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Jerold M. Starr

From: MallardMark38@aol.com **FCC MAIL ROOM**
Sent: Saturday, December 01, 2001 7:45 AM
To: FCC-comments@save16.org; mpowell@fcc.gov; kabernat@fcc.gov; mcopps@fcc.gov;
kjmweb@fcc.gov; msalas@fcc.gov; slerman@isl-law.com; campbeaj@law.georgetown.edu;
jmstarr@cipbonline.org
Subject: Save WQEX 16

Sirs:

I wish to submit my objection to WQED's proposed sale of WQEX. I find it almost criminal for WQED profit from the sale of a public domain station to a commercial broadcaster. They have not fulfilled their promise to the public and the FCC. Simulcasting is a waste of their financial resources, which could help reduce their debt burden. If they choose not to provide the service as promised, the frequency allocation should go to parties willing to provide the service or if that's not possible, the FCC should reclaim the frequency and sell it to a private broadcaster realizing a gain for the taxpayer.

It really bothers me to think that they abused the public trust. Their debt was not caused by area economics, but by mismanagement, high wages and extravagant perks. They and their supporters, not the taxpayers, should pay down the debt.

Thank You

Mark McFarland
4919 Lucerne Ave
Pittsburgh Pa. 15214

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To: mpowell@fcc.gov, sness@fcc.gov, hfurchtg@fcc.gov, gt Tristan@fcc.gov, slerman@isl-law.com,
CAMPBEAJ@wpgate.law3.georgetown.edu, conematt@hotmail.com [Save Address](#)
Subject: Why should WQEX be sacrificed?
Date: Thu, 22 Feb 2001 04:10:02 -0800

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The Honorable Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington DC 20554

Chairman Powell:

I am a big fan of free markets and market mechanisms. But in the case of public discourse, as the recent "XFL" has shown, commercial television alone is not enough. As envisioned by the Carnegie Commission, public television was to be "a forum for controversy and debate" and "a voice for groups in the community may otherwise be unheard" so that we can "see America whole, in all its diversity." While it is certainly true that public television does not achieve these goals all the time, it is equally true that public television lives up to these ideals far more frequently than does commercial television.

Because public television impacts society in profoundly important ways, it was with great sadness that I learned of the plans to dereserve and sell WQEX. Throughout its history, WQEX has done an exemplary job of serving the needs of the people of Pittsburgh. Why this station, which has no history of debt, should be sacrificed in order to ease WQED's financial burden is beyond me. No good can come from forfeiting one of the few stations whose commitment to serving us as citizens is so outstanding.

I am therefore writing to urge you to rule against the proposed dereservation of WQEX.

Sincerely,

Dmitri Mehlnhorn

+-----+
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 To: <slerman@isl-law.com>, "CAMPBEAJ@wpgate.law3.georgetown.edu"
 <CAMPBEAJ@wpgate.law3.georgetown.edu>, "conematt@hotmail.com" <conematt@hotmail.com>

Subject: WQEX serves Children

Date: Mon, 26 Feb 2001 10:44:22 -0500

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February 26, 2001

The Honorable Michael Powell
 Federal Communications Commission
 445 12th Street, SW
 Room 8-B201
 Washington DC 20554
 Chairman Powell:

I have been a fan of public broadcasting for my entire adult life. Before I explain why I have such admiration for this medium, I would like to define precisely what I mean when I label myself a "fan." The way I am using this term is in direct contrast to how WQED board chairman Tom McGough invoked it when he claimed that he was "as big a fan of public meetings as anyone who draws a breath" when, in fact, he and the rest of the board had authorized George Miles to conduct a secret set of negotiations with ShootingStar. Whereas McGough used the term "fan" in a dishonest manner designed mainly to shield himself from criticism, I use the term fan in a manner consistent with Webster's notion of a person who is a "devotee." My devotion to public television stems primarily from my background as an advocate for children. I hold an Bachelor's degree in Liberal Studies, a Master's degree in Child and Family Studies, and have worked with children in many different arenas. I began providing child care when I was 11 years old and continue to this day. I have seen literally hundreds of children learn and grow from the excellent programs on PBS. In addition to providing child care, I have student taught in a kindergarten classroom, volunteered in the Child Life department at U.C.L.A. Medical Center, and conducted workshops for children in the Education department at the Art Institute of Chicago. During graduate school, I served on the Child Care Tuition Assistance Program board, an organization that helps parents with the high cost of child care. Given my background, I have deep convictions about what our society should do to help our children. Without a doubt, public television has been and continues to be the best source of quality programming for children. Furthermore, public television deserves praise for refusing to air the sort of gratuitous violence that has become commonplace on commercial television stations. I applaud public television and I hope that there will be no reduction in the number of public television stations in Pittsburgh or anywhere else in the United States.

Sincerely,

Lisa Michels

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FCC MAIL ROOM

Wendi Miller
6020 Penn Circle South
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-661-9209

Re: MM DOCKET NO 01-276 the sale of WQEX Pittsburgh

Magalie Roman Salas
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
145 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

To whom it may concern;

The FCC is responsible with standing guard over the public airways. The idea of selling part of this public trust is ill conceived at best, but to sell it to a religious group is an outrage. The government shall not establish any religion.

Please deny this request.

Wendi Miller

Jerold M. Starr

From: Carol Moessinger [pcmoessinger@earthlink.net]
Sent: Sunday, November 25, 2001 5:12 PM
To: webmaster@save16.org; mpowell@fcc.gov; kabernat@fcc.gov; mcopps@fcc.gov;
kjmweb@fcc.gov; msalas@fcc.gov; slerman@lsl-law.com; campbeaj@law.georgetown.edu;
jmstarr@cipbonline.org
Subject: MM Docket No. 01-276 --- WQED application to commercialize and sell the WQEX
educational license

Please do not approve the commercialization and sale of WQEX's educational
license. I support keeping Channel 16 a public broadcasting station.
Additional comments:

Public Broadcasting should be supported with monies from public coffers. If
private airlines can be bailed out by the Federal Government. Certainly,
public broadcasting should be helped as it benefits every person in the
United States who has a television.

Carol J. Moessinger

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RECEIVED**DEC 18 2001****Jerold M. Starr**

From: JohnMole [johnmole@adelphia.net]
Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2001 4:13 PM
To: webmaster@save16.org; mpowell@fcc.gov; kabernat@fcc.gov; mcopps@fcc.gov;
 kjmweb@fcc.gov; msalas@fcc.gov; slerman@lsl-law.com; campbeaj@law.georgetown.edu;
 jmstarr@cipbonline.org
Cc: johnmole@adelphia.net
Subject: MM Dockett No. 01-276----WQED application to commercialize and sell the WQEX educational license

FCC MAIL ROOM

Magalie Roman Salas
 Office of the Secretary
 Federal Communications Commission
 445 12th Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commission Members,

Please do not approve the commercialization and sale of WQEX'S educational license. I support keeping Channel 16 a public broadcasting station.

Additional Comments:

WQEX, Channel 16, is a public trust that was once awarded to the people of Pittsburgh for educational broadcasting. It is not the private property of WQED Pittsburgh and they should not be allowed to sell it for profit.

Pittsburgh does not need another commercial TV channel. It already has more than enough! Since WQED shut down WQEX's programming and began simulcasting, it has failed to meet the larger educational and community needs of this region. We need an alternative educational channel which can meet the needs of the entire community--as well, or better, than WQEX once did.

There are enough individual supporters of WQEX and local foundations to fully fund the station and activities, without resort to the highly objectionable fund raising tactics of public television. We and many others will support WQEX handsomely if it is set up fully independent of WQED and continues the policies of the former WQEX.

WQED provides mediocre and cheap fill-in programming, which is a virtual wasteland for intelligent people. We used to watch WQED and WQEX as preferred TV resources but rarely find anything of interest now. WQED have squandered their charter for educational TV and constantly abuses their viewers, listeners and supporters. We still support WQED financially but have not increased our donations due to the constant degradation of the programming and the large amount of wasted time due to aggressive fund raising.

WQED could provide much better programming now if it practiced sound management principles. However, they not only employ excessive staff but pay the management excessive pay and benefits. This is an example of their arrogance and contempt for their viewers. If they structured their finances soundly there would be another \$1 million available for better programming.

WQED's debts are the result of wasteful management which continues to this day. A WQED investigation into alleged embezzlement was kept secret even from its own board of directors. The people of the region should not suffer from the misdeeds of a few by losing an essential community asset.

WQED has rejected bids from non-profit institutions in the community to operate WQEX as a public station. Instead, WQED CEO George Miles has demanded a huge windfall that is far in excess of the real market value of a non-commercial, public broadcasting license. As an alternative, a community initiative, Pittsburgh Educational Television (PET), has developed a business plan to restore public broadcasting on Channel # 16

and serve the community WQED neglects. Please give PET a chance to serve the people of this region.

Mr. & Mrs. C. John Mole
1765 Mountain View Drive
Monroeville, PA 15146-2030

Tel: (724) 327-0039
Email: johnmole@adelphia.net

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Jerold M. Starr

From: Suzanne Motheral [sm29@cornell.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2001 2:15 PM
To: jmstarr@cipbonline.org
Subject: WQEX

FCC MAIL ROOM

Dear Mr. Starr,

I am writing on behalf of the campaign to keep WQEX, Channel 16 a community broadcasting station, instead of being sold by WQED.

WQEX, Channel 16, is a public trust awarded to the people of Pittsburgh for educational broadcasting. It should be kept as such.

Pittsburgh has a proud tradition in public broadcasting, and it must remain true to the public, and not confuse public access and private ownership. A second, vital public broadcasting station is important to the cultural regeneration of the city and the economic growth so badly needed in the region now.

I understand that when it was broadcasting its own programming, WQEX cost only \$1 million a year to operate. Not only was this a fraction of WQED's budget, but WQEX generated a revenue surplus. It seems feasible for a community organized and run station to hold its own in Pittsburgh. Please be sure to give it that chance, and stop WQED from selling.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Regards,
Suzanne Motheral
3955 Bigelow Blvd, #1106
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

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To: <sness@fcc.gov>, <hfurchtg@fcc.gov>, <mpowell@fcc.gov>, <gtristan@fcc.gov>, <slerman@isl-law.com>, <CAMPBEAJ@wpgate.law3.georgetown.edu> [Save Address](#)

Subject: Business perspective on WQED board

Date: Mon, 26 Feb 2001 14:04:12 -0800

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The Honorable Michael Powell
 Federal Communications Commission
 445 12th Street, SW
 Room 8-B201
 Washington DC 20554

Chairman Powell:

For much of the past decade, WQED's management has severely mismanaged their station. In addition to overpaying executives, WQED's management has run up huge debts and tried to thwart the will of the public by paying off this debt through a sale of WQEX. Now comes news that WQED has struck a covert deal for WQEX with ShootingStar. WQED's officials are asking you to dereserve WQEX so that this sale can proceed. These WQED officials are also claiming that this sale is necessary because Pittsburgh can no longer sustain two public television stations.

As a recent business school graduate from UCLA, I can assure you that reality is being stretched to its absolute limits when WQED officials authoritatively proclaim that they know what the Pittsburgh market can and cannot sustain. If these WQED officials had managed a private company in a similar manner to how they have managed WQED, they would have received their collective pink slips years ago. No group of stockholders would possibly be satisfied with the confusion, debt, and mendacity produced by WQED's officials.

Rather than relying on the collective financial acumen of this lot, I recommend that you examine whether or not this group is fit to run WQED and WQEX. Given their history of financial ineptitude, I am confident that you will find that this group is neither equipped to manage these stations nor to speak for the people of Pittsburgh. In light of this realization, I believe that there is no alternative to refusing WQED's dereservation request.

Respectfully Yours,

Adam Musch

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Accession Number

Journal Article: 1998-01659-001

Author

Reynolds, Deborah E; Gomez, Kevin M

TitleSecular trends in the incidence of **anorexia nervosa**: Integrative review of population-based studies.**Source**

International Journal of Eating Disorders Vol 20(4) May 1998, pp 352-362

Abstract

Aggregating across retrospective cohort samples, this integrative review synthesizes the findings of 12 cumulative incidence studies (1950-92) on **anorexia nervosa** secular trends. These 12 studies included a total of 45 samples of males and females aged 15-29 years in the US, Holland, Britain, New Zealand, Switzerland, and Israel. Results indicate that: (1) the female/male **anorexia** incidence rate ratio was estimated to be 8.2 (95% CI 4.8-13.5); (2) female teenagers (aged 13-19 yrs) experienced **anorexia** at a rate fivefold greater than other women; (3) a near threefold increase in incidence was observed among women in their 20s and 30s (6.28 [1950-64] to 20.06 [1965-92]); (4) the 2 cohort characteristics of age and the age by year interaction accounted for nearly two thirds of the variability among **anorexia** incidence estimates. The integrative evidence suggests strongly that, overall, the incidence of **anorexia nervosa** particularly among those very young women at greatest risk of experiencing it, has not increased significantly. However, the risk does appear to have increased significantly among women in their 20s and 30s.

A. A baccalaureate degree from a college or university having a teacher education program approved by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education;

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To: mpowell@fcc.gov, sness@fcc.gov, hfurchtg@fcc.gov, gtristan@fcc.gov [Save Address](#)
CC: slerman@lsf-law.com, Conematt@hotmail.com [Save Address](#)
Subject: Dereservation of WQEX
Date: Thu, 01 Mar 2001 09:02:06 -0500

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Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to indicate my opposition to the dereservation and sale of WQEX. This is a valuable community asset that should not be turned over to a commercial interest.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Jack L. Paradise, M.D.

4211 Bigelow Blvd.

Pittsburgh, PA 15213

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Jerold M. Starr

From: ED [edpetris@usaor.net]

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Sent: Monday, December 03, 2001 11:40 PM

To: FCC-comments@save16.org; mpowell@fcc.gov; kabernat@fcc.gov; mcopps@fcc.gov; kjmweb@fcc.gov; msalas@fcc.gov; slerman@lsl-law.com; campbeaj@law.georgetown.edu; jmstarr@cipbonline.org

Subject: MM Docket No. 01-276 --- WQED application to commercialize and sell the WQEX educational license

Magalie Roman Salas
Office of the Secretary,
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commission members,

I have lived in Pittsburgh for 22 years, and truly enjoyed the programming that was available on WQEX. This public resource provided a great alternative to the commercial television available to those of us who subscribe to neither cable nor satellite TV.

Many people in Pittsburgh are working hard to help this region grow economically, and culturally. I believe it would be legally and morally wrong to allow WQED to sell this valuable regional asset. Please give the Pittsburgh Educational Television (PET) proposal the opportunity to expand the viewing options for the people of Pittsburgh.

Sincerely,

Jean Petrisek
305 S. Atlantic Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15224

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Date: Mon, 26 Feb 2001 13:30:34 -0000

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>
>Chairman Powell:
>

>We have followed WQED's proposal to sell WQEX closely over the past several
>weeks. When the announcement was first made, it caught us by surprise.
>After all, this proposal came only a year after the Cornerstone deal
>collapsed. Did not the Cornerstone case make clear the danger in
>attempting

>to sell WQEX without the full support of the public? At least that was one
>of the major lessons that we took from this case. Unfortunately, the WQED
>board seems to have emerged from the Cornerstone case with a slightly
>different lesson, a lesson about how to sneak behind the public's back when
>the public will not support the board's proposals.

>
>This most recent proposal to sell WQEX is disgusting. Apparently, the WQED
>board is not content with having sunk WQED into debt and with having gutted
>WQEX through the ongoing simulcasting regime. Now, in what can only be
>deemed a perverse twist, the WQED board has negotiated a secret plan to
>sell

>the WQEX station that it weakened in order to pay for the WQED station that
>it saddled with debt. Please stop the irresponsible WQED board before
>they

>do more damage to the people of Pittsburgh.

>
>Sincerely,
>

>Mary Bardone & Bill Platte

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Jerold M. Starr

From: Keith Dom Powell [ap25@andrew.cmu.edu]
Sent: Thursday, December 06, 2001 3:28 PM
To: jmstarr@cipbonline.org
Subject: WQEX Pittsburgh

413/421.2183

Here is a letter I sent to the FCC Chairman, 3 commissioners and secretary, and Steve Lerman:

Keith Dom Powell
4114 Millington Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15217-2850

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December 6, 2001

DEC 18 2001

Secretary Magalie Roman Salas
F.C.C.
Washington D.C. 20006

FCC MAIL ROOM

Dear Secretary Salas,

I am writing to express my opposition at plans by WQED Pittsburgh to change the license of station WQEX, Channel 16 (which the community not WQED owns) from educational to commercial. As a non-commercial broadcast entity, WQEX has provided countless hours of instruction and entertainment to Western Pennsylvania. To allow the non-commercial broadcast license of the station to be changed to a commercial one will seriously change for the worse the community it has been serving.

Channel 16 is a community trust formed to serve the educational needs of the community. How would a commercial station, whose main goal is to make money, address the educational needs of Pittsburgh?

At present, WQED is simulcasting its signal on both Channels 16 and 13. Whenever a special need for extra event coverage comes up, as when the impeachment hearings were televised, or the September 11 disaster coverage, the educational component suffers. Such instructional shows as Destinos (a program for teaching Spanish), Sesame Street, or Reading Rainbow (to cite just a few) which in the past would have aired on the sister station have not been broadcast for the duration of the special coverage. This indicates the contempt by WQED Pittsburgh for the community that it serves.

Gone are the independent films such as Rocco and his Seven Brothers and Woman of the Dunes which I once enjoyed viewing on WQEX. Absent too are many of the British comedies, found nowhere else in other stations' programming.

WQED has the idea that it can reap a windfall from the sale of WQEX to take care of its ongoing fiscal mismanagement and cash flow problems. What happens in the future when these same problems crop up again? Little product is being generated by WQED. It no longer produces programs such as the National Geographic Specials. The station's management is too well compensated for what little is being produced.

WQED has rejected the idea that it should turn WQEX over to a truly community-based organization without receiving several millions of dollars.

Why should an organization such as Pittsburgh Educational Television pay to keep educational TV on the airwaves? WQEX is a public trust owned by the people of Pittsburgh for educational broadcasting.

I hope the current FCC takes its oversight role seriously. Despite past misdeeds of WQED, it has been allowed to continue to operate in virtual secrecy and without community involvement. Its board is unwilling to offer

a dissenting voice to question failed ideas of the past. Please give Pittsburgh Educational Television or another such entity a chance to rectify the mistakes of WQED and keep the non-commercial license intact. Only then will we again have a community station to be proud of.

Respectfully yours,

Keith Dom Powell

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Jerold M. Starr

From: Roger Rafson [rafson@cmsradio.com]
Sent: Sunday, November 25, 2001 11:15 PM
To: webmaster@save16.org; mpowell@fcc.gov; kabernat@fcc.gov; mcopps@fcc.gov;
kjmweb@fcc.gov; msalas@fcc.gov; slerman@isl-law.com; campbeaj@law.georgetown.edu;
jmstarr@cipbonline.org
Subject: MM Docket No. 01-276 --- WQED application to commercialize and sell the WQEX
educational license

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Please do not approve the commercialization and sale of WQEX's educational license. I support keeping Channel 16 a public broadcasting station.
Additional comments:

WQEX is a public asset. It is not something the management of WQED/WQEX ever bought. Therefore it is not theirs to sell! Channel 16 belongs to the community of Greater Pittsburgh.

The management of WQED/WQEX, which dug itself into a \$9 million deficit due to mismanagement and golden parachutes for its executives, seeks to eliminate the deficit by trying to sell Channel 16. I feel they have demonstrated their inability to show fiscal responsibility. The current management should be allowed to go out of business and new operators of the public frequencies should be allowed to run it.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Roger Rafson
Pittsburgh, PA

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 <mpowell@fcc.gov>, <sness@fcc.gov>, <hfurchth@fcc.gov>, <gtristan@fcc.gov>,
To: <campbeaj@wpgate.law3.georgetown.edu>, <slerman@lsl-law.com>, <conematt@hotmail.com>
[Save Address](#)
Subject: WQEX
Date: Fri, 16 Feb 2001 23:46:55 -0500

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I am writing to ask you to reject the proposal to dereserve WQEX. This station can and should be held as a community property. Thank you.

Catherine Raphael
 5700 Bartlett Street
 Pittsburgh, PA 15217

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Jerold M. Starr

From: Aaron Read [aread@speakeasy.net]
Sent: Saturday, December 01, 2001 10:13 PM
To: mpowell@fcc.gov; kabernat@fcc.gov; mcopps@fcc.gov; kjmweb@fcc.gov; msalas@fcc.gov; slerman@isl-law.com; campbeaj@law.georgetown.edu; jmstarr@cipbonline.org
Subject: MM Docket No. 01-276 --- WQED application to commercialize and sell the WQEX educational license

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Magalie Roman Salas
Office of the Secretary,
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commission members,
Please do not approve the commercialization and sale of WQEX's educational license. I support keeping Channel 16 a public broadcasting station. Why do I care about a station in Pittsburgh when I live near Boston? Two reasons:

1: I care about public broadcasting everywhere, I like to think I'm not selfish enough to think my local public TV & radio stations (WGBH, WGBX, WBUR, WUMB, etc etc) are all that matter.

2: I know enough about how public broadcasting "really works" (I was a staffer at WBUR for three years and I'm quite active in the Boston radio market) to understand that if WQEX is commercialized, especially if the reason behind it is as flimsy as "the economy won't support two public radio stations), then other stations elsewhere will no doubt suffer the same fate in the name of the almighty dollar.

If WQEX wants their station to be commercialized...I see only one way this should be allowed. Their license is taken away from them with no compensation and made available for being acquired just like any other new commercial license. They got the station for free, they have to give it up for free. If they want to buy it back and then try and sell it at a higher price - by all means, they can do that. But to allow them to sell an entity they were given by the government is essentially corporate welfare.

Aaron Read
12 Walnut St.
Apt. 2R
Waltham, MA 02453

Jerold M. Starr

From: jeff ritter [ritterj1@marie.laroche.edu]
Sent: Sunday, November 25, 2001 10:31 PM
To: webmaster@save16.org; mpowell@fcc.gov; kabernat@fcc.gov; mcopps@fcc.gov;
kjmweb@fcc.gov; msalas@fcc.gov; slerman@lsl-law.com; campbeaj@law.georgetown.edu;
jmstarr@cipbonline.org
Subject: channel 16

I was shocked to see that WQED is still trying to get channel 16 converted to a commercial station in order to sell it to wipe out their debt. Channel 13 right now is one of the worst Public tv stations I have ever seen - airing info-mercials, decades old programming and irrelevant broadcasts at odd hours - (a science show for elementary schoolers at 11 PM??)

I think that channel 16 should be given a chance to flourish by turning it over to another party interested in serving the public and using the airwaves for an alternative to stale Public tv fare. I hope this turns out to be the case in Pittsburgh.

thanks

jeff ritter

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To: <slerman@isl-law.com>, <CAMPBEAJ@wpgate.law3.georgetown.edu>, <conematt@hotmail.com>[Save Address](#)**Subject:** WQED**Date:** Thu, 22 Feb 2001 21:02:36 EST[Reply](#)[Reply All](#)[Forward](#)[Delete](#)[Previous](#)[Next](#)[Close](#)

February 22, 2001

The Honorable Michael Powell
 Federal Communications Commission
 445 12th Street, SW
 Room 8-B201
 Washington DC 20554

Commissioner Powell:

An article in today's Pittsburgh Post-Gazette quotes WQED Vice President B.J. Leber as saying that, "We won't comment on information" that suggests that WQED's executives have been grossly overcompensated in recent years. According to Leber, WQED will not engage these claims because, "Our eyes are on a much bigger vision." Please allow me to suggest to you that WQED's vision for WQEX centers on little more than gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

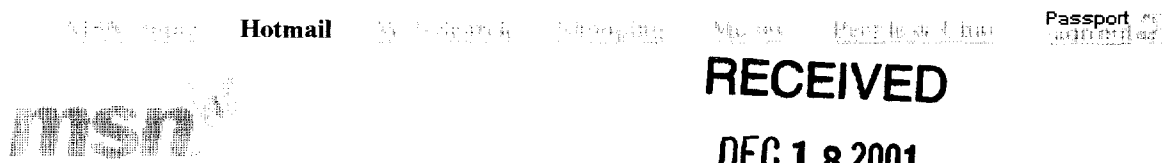
The reason why WQED and its officials cite platitudes instead of a specific vision for WQEX is because they have no vision for WQEX. How could they? They are selling WQEX to a company, Shooting Star, which has so far offered no details about the kinds of programs that it will air if it acquires WQEX.

Thus, Leber's evasiveness makes perfect sense. The truth of the matter is that neither Leber nor I have the slightest idea how Shooting Star will operate WQEX. At least, I am honest enough to acknowledge this fact.

Leber and her clique are not to be trusted. They have made a financial mess of WQED and as she admits, they are unwilling to answer questions about their sorry tenure. Now that they have a chance to eliminate the debt that they have created, they can hardly be bothered to respond to the public or to answer questions about their bloated salaries. Their arrogance and financial incompetence are comical and I hope that you chuckle as you dismiss their transparent request to bail themselves out of the problems that they have created.

Sincerely,

Inder Rottger

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To: campbeaj@wpgate.law3.georgetown.edu, slerman@lsl-law.com, conematt@hotmail.com [Save Address](#)
Subject: (no subject)

Date: Wed, 28 Feb 2001 13:59:24 EST[Reply](#)[Reply All](#)[Forward](#)[Delete](#)[Previous](#)[Next](#)[Close](#)

To: Chairman M. Powell
 Federal Communications Commission

From: Molly Rush, staff organizer
 The Thomas Merton Center
 Ministry for Justice & Peace
 5125 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15224

The Thomas Merton Center is a membership organization located in Western Pennsylvania. Among our membership are hundreds in the WQED-WQEX viewing area. We are strongly opposed to the commercial sale of a public broadcasting station. We support efforts to keep WQEX operating as a public station. Any transfer of ownership should reflect the need to retain the public service role that WQEX was empowered by the FCC to offer.

WQED has shown its lack of concern for this public interest by the duplicate programming it has presented for months on both stations.

We urge you to refuse the deal that would deprive Western PA. citizens of an important and valued asset, WQEX.

The Peace and Social Justice Center of Pittsburgh
[We come to the Thomas Merton Center!](#)
 or <http://trfn.clpgh.org/merton>

5125 Penn Avenue
 Pittsburgh, PA 15224
 Phone: 412.361.3022
 Fax: 412.361.0540

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Jerold M. Starr

From: Schlotter (Rice), Dee [schlotter@ppg.com]
Sent: Monday, December 03, 2001 5:31 PM
To: 'mpowell@fcc.gov'; 'kabernat@fcc.gov'; 'mcopps@fcc.gov'; 'msalas@fcc.gov'; 'slerman@isl-law.com'; 'jmstarr@cipbonline.org'
Subject: FW: MM Docket No. 01-276 --- WQED application to commercialize and
Importance: High

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> Magalie Roman Salas
> Office of the Secretary,
> Federal Communications Commission
> 445 12th Street, SW
> Washington, DC 20554
>
> Dear Commission members,
>
> Please do not approve the commercialization and sale of WQEX's educational
> license. I support keeping Channel 16 a public broadcasting station.
>
> Pittsburgh does not need another commercial TV channel -- it already has
> more than enough! Since WQED shut down WQEX's programming and began
> simulcasting, it has failed to meet the educational and community needs of
> this region. We need an alternative educational channel which can serve the
> people of the entire community -- as well as, or better than, WQEX once did.
>
> Sincerely,
>
> Dee Schlotter
> 190 Martha Avenue
> Pittsburgh, PA 15209
>
>

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To: mpowell@fcc.gov, sness@fcc.gov, gtristan@fcc.gov, campbeaj@wpgate.law3.georgetown.edu,
slerman@lsi-law.com, conematt@hotmail.com**Subject:** oppose WQEX sale**Date:** Wed, 21 Feb 2001 16:16:43 -0500

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed sale and commercializaition of WQEX. As a Pittsburgher, a long-time veiwer of both WQED and WQEX, and supporter and contributing member of public television and radio, I am concerned that the sale would mean the loss of a valuable public resource. And once sold, the public channel would not be recovered.

I'm equally distressed at the way WQED has recently discharged its responsibility as a public station through its current programming choices and the way it has mishandled funds so as to place itself in a precarious financial situation. I believe the plan proposed by WQED reflects the station's ongoing irresponsibility as a trustee for public broadcasting in the Pittsburgh area and should definitely not be permitted to go into effect.

As someone who supports quality public programming, I feel strongly that the last thing we need in Pittsburgh is another commercial channel.

Please reject WQED's petition to transfer the station into commercial hands, and urge them to fulfill their responsibilities as caretakers of a publicly owned resource.

Sincerely,

Karen R. Schnakenberg
7011 Reynolds Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15209

412-731-3046

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